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Letter dated 4 September 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to several incidents of Palestinian terrorism directed against Israeli civilians in the last few days.

Within the space of seven hours on Sunday morning, 2 September 2001, four separate bombs exploded in the streets of Jerusalem. The first explosion occurred just after midnight in the northern Jerusalem neighbourhood of French Hill. Police were summoned after a suspicious object had been spotted in the front yard of an apartment building. As police attempted to neutralize the bomb, it exploded, damaging the side of the building. Just after 4 a.m., a large pipe bomb packed with nails and hidden under a parked truck exploded in the nearby neighbourhood of Ma'alot Dafna; one woman was treated for shock. Then, at 7.45 a.m., another bomb exploded in French Hill adjacent to the neighbourhood's commercial centre. One woman was lightly wounded in the blast. At roughly the same hour, a bomb exploded across town in the Jerusalem neighbourhood of Gilo, lightly injuring three people. A group calling itself the Abu Ali Mustafa Brigades of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility for all four bombs.

This morning, yet another terrorist explosion occurred in the heart of Jerusalem. At approximately 7.45 a.m. a Palestinian suicide bomber detonated an explosive charge at the corner of Strauss and Hanevi'im Streets near the central Russian Compound section and just a few metres from the Sbarro restaurant that was bombed on 9 August 2001. Thirteen people were wounded in the blast, two of them seriously.

These five bombings are the latest manifestations of an escalating campaign of Palestinian terrorism that is now entering its twelfth month. Previous incidents have been detailed in my letters dated 30 August 2001 (A/56/325-S/2001/834), 27 August 2001 (A/56/324-S/2001/825), 13 August 2001 (A/56/294-S/2001/787), 9 August 2001 (A/56/286-S/2001/780), 8 August 2001 (A/56/280-S/2001/775), 6 August 2001 (A/56/272-S/2001/768), 27 July 2001 (A/56/225-S/2001/743), 26 July 2001

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(A/56/223-S/2001/737), 17 July 2001 (A/56/201-S/2001/706), 13 July 2001 (A/56/184-S/2001/696), 3 July 2001 (A/56/138-S/2001/662), 2 July 2001 (A/56/131-S/2001/656), 21 June 2001 (A/56/119-S/2001/619), 19 June 2001 (A/56/98-S/2001/611), 18 June 2001 (A/56/97-S/2001/604), 13 June 2001 (A/56/92-S/2001/585), 11 June 2001 (A/56/91-S/2001/580), 4 June 2001 (A/56/85-S/2001/555), 30 May 2001 (A/56/81-S/2001/540), 25 May 2001 (A/56/80-S/2001/524), 18 May 2001 (A/56/78-S/2001/506), 11 May 2001 (A/56/72-S/2001/473), 9 May 2001 (A/56/69-S/2001/459), 1 May 2001 (A/55/924-S/2001/435), 23 April 2001 (A/55/910-S/2001/396), 16 April 2001 (A/55/901-S/2001/364), 28 March 2001 (A/55/863-S/2001/291), 27 March 2001 (A/55/860-S/2001/280), 26 March 2001 (A/55/858-S/2001/278), 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001 (A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252), 22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108), and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065).

These attacks come in addition to scores of others, including drive-by shootings, stabbings and mortar fire, that have targeted Israeli civilians as they drive on roads, go shopping and even as they sit peacefully in their homes. To date, 164 Israelis have been killed and over 1,600 have been injured in thousands of separate terrorist attacks.

The State of Israel holds the Palestinian leadership responsible for these attacks in light of its unending incitement to hatred and violence, its refusal to fulfil its obligations to control terrorism emanating from the territory under its control and the role, both active and tacit, of the Palestinian security forces in planning and implementing terrorist attacks on Israeli targets. In a flagrant and dangerous departure from its fundamental commitment to non-violence, the Palestinian leadership has embraced the path of violence and confrontation as a means to achieve its political goals.

Israel utterly condemns this destructive and futile decision and calls upon the Palestinian leadership to act in accordance with its commitments, to renounce the use of violence and terror, and to control and discipline those who engage in violence against Israeli civilians.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under item 178 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aaron **Jacob**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.